

In the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A computer-based interface for facilitating rebate processing, the interface operable to:

display a plurality of product identifiers using the computer-based interface, wherein each of the product identifiers is associated with a product bearing a rebate;

receive purchase information from a user, wherein the purchase information identifies a purchased product associated with a selected one of the product identifiers;

<u>receive a rebate request for a rebate on the purchased product, the rebate request</u>

<u>having an associated rebate transaction identifier assigned by a remote rebate processing center;</u>

retrieve status information for the rebate request from the remote rebate processing center using the rebate transaction identifier;

display the status information;

receive authorization of a rebate the rebate request;

display rebate information retrieved from a remote the remote rebate processing center, the rebate information comprising at least two disbursement options determined based on the purchase information, a first one of the disbursement options having a first cash value to a recipient and a second one of the disbursement options having a second cash value to a recipient, the first cash value different than the second cash value; and

receive a selection of the disbursement options.

- 2. (Canceled)
- 3. (Currently amended) The computer-based interface of Claim 2 Claim 1, further operable to:

receive a search string; and

display the product identifiers responsive to the search string.





- 4. (Original) The computer-based interface of Claim 1, wherein the rebate request comprises a request for a rebate on a purchased product, and the disbursement options comprise a plurality of products related to the purchased product available to purchase using a rebate credit.
 - 5. (Canceled)
- 6. (Original) The computer-based interface of Claim 1, further operable to:
 display a plurality of products available to purchase using a credit associated with a selected one of the disbursement options;

receive purchase selections from the plurality of products; and display a total price of the purchase selections.

- 7. (Original) The computer-based interface of Claim 6, further operable to receive credit card information from the user if the total price exceeds the credit.
- 8. (Original) The computer-based interface of Claim 1, wherein the interface comprises a site browser and further operable to display an additional site for purchasing products using a credit associated with a selected one of the disbursement options.
- 9. (Original) The computer-based interface of Claim 1, wherein the disbursement options comprise a cash rebate and a credit voucher.
- 10. (Original) The computer-based interface of Claim 1, wherein the credit voucher comprises a selected one of a retailer gift certificate, a manufacturer credit voucher, and a credit valid for an Internet purchase.



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11. (Currently amended) A method for processing a rebate, comprising:

displaying a plurality of product identifiers using a computer-based interface, wherein each of the product identifiers is associated with a product bearing a rebate;

receiving purchase information from a user, wherein the purchase information identifies a purchased product associated with a selected one of the product identifiers;

receiving a rebate request for a rebate on the purchased product, the rebate request having an associated rebate transaction identifier assigned by a remote rebate processing center;

retrieving status information for the rebate request from the remote rebate processing center using the rebate transaction identifier;

displaying the status information;

receiving authorization of a rebate the rebate request;

displaying rebate information retrieved from a remote the remote rebate processing center, the rebate information comprising at least two disbursement options determined based on the purchase information, a first one of the disbursement options having a first cash value to a recipient and a second one of the disbursement options having a second cash value to a recipient, the first cash value different than the second cash value; and

receiving a selection of the disbursement options.

- 12. (Canceled)
- 13. (Currently amended) The method of Claim-12 Claim 11, further comprising: receiving a search string; and displaying the product identifiers responsive to the search string.
- 14. (Original) The method of Claim 11, wherein the rebate request comprises a request for a rebate on a purchased product, and the disbursement options comprise a plurality of products related to the purchased product available to purchase using a rebate credit.
 - 15. (Canceled)





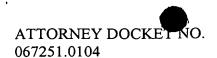
16. (Original) The method of Claim 11, further comprising:

displaying a plurality of products available to purchase using a credit associated with a selected one of the disbursement options;

receiving purchase selections from the plurality of products; and displaying a total price of the purchase selections.

- 17. (Original) The method of Claim 16, further comprising receiving credit card information from the user if the total price exceeds the credit.
- 18. (Original) The method of Claim 11, further comprising linking to a site for purchasing products using a credit associated with a selected one of the disbursement options.
- 19. (Original) The method of Claim 11, wherein the disbursement options comprise a cash rebate and a credit voucher.
- 20. (Original) The method of Claim 11, wherein the credit voucher comprises a selected one of a retailer gift certificate, a manufacturer credit voucher, and a credit valid for an Internet purchase.





- 21. (Previously presented) A rebate processor, comprising:
- a memory operable to store a promotion comprising at least two disbursement options, a first one of the disbursement options having a first cash value to a recipient and a second one of the disbursement options having a second cash value to a recipient, the first cash value different than the second cash value; and

a processor, operable to:

receive a rebate request <u>from a user;</u>
<u>assign a rebate transaction identifier to the rebate request;</u>

communicate the rebate transaction identifier to the user;

match the rebate request to the promotion;

communicate an authorization of the rebate request, wherein the authorization comprises the disbursement options; and

receive a selection of the disbursement options.

22. (Original) The rebate processor of Claim 21, wherein:

the promotion further comprises a first promotion identifier;

the rebate request comprises a second promotion identifier; and

the processor is further operable to match the rebate request to the promotion based on a comparison of the first promotion identifier and the second promotion identifier.

23. (Original) The rebate processor of Claim 21, wherein the processor is further operable to:

receive purchase information from a consumer; and identify the promotion based on the purchase information.

24. (Original) The rebate processor of Claim 21, wherein the rebate request comprises a request for a rebate on a purchased product, and the disbursement options comprise a plurality of products related to the purchased product available to purchase using a rebate credit.





- 25. (Original) The rebate processor of Claim 21, wherein the memory is further operable to store status information, wherein status information comprises a current status of the rebate request.
- 26. (Original) The rebate processor of Claim 21, wherein the processor is further operable to:

communicate a product list, wherein the product list comprises a plurality of products available to purchase using a credit associated with a selected one of the disbursement options;

receive purchase selections from the product list; and display a total price of the purchase selections.

- 27. (Original) The rebate processor of Claim 26, wherein the processor is further operable to receive credit card information from the user if the total price exceeds the credit.
- 28. (Original) The rebate processor of Claim 21, wherein the processor is further operable to communicate a location of a site for purchasing products using a credit associated with a selected one of the disbursement options.
- 29. (Original) The rebate processor of Claim 21, wherein the disbursement options comprise a cash rebate and a credit voucher.
- 30. (Original) The rebate processor of Claim 21, wherein the credit voucher comprises a selected one of a retailer gift certificate, a manufacturer credit voucher, and a credit valid for an Internet purchase.





31. (Previously presented) A method for processing a rebate, comprising: receiving purchase information identifying a product bearing a rebate;

communicating the purchase information to a remote rebate processing center <u>using</u> an electronic communications network;

receiving rebate information describing the rebate from the remote rebate processing center, the rebate information comprising at least two disbursement options, a first one of the disbursement options having a first cash value to a recipient and a second one of the disbursement options having a second cash value to a recipient, the first cash value different than the second cash value; and

displaying the rebate information; information.

receiving consumer information from the user, wherein the consumer information identifies a purchase of the product bearing the rebate;

communicating the consumer information to the remote rebate processing center to initiate a rebate request;

receiving a rebate transaction identifier from the remote rebate processing center, the rebate transaction identifier assigned to the rebate request by the remote rebate processing center;

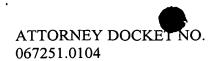
outputting the rebate transaction identifier for physical delivery to the remote rebate processing center;

retrieving status information for the rebate request from the remote rebate processing center using the rebate transaction identifier; and

displaying the status information.

- 32. (Canceled)
- 33. (Original) The method of Claim 31, wherein the disbursement options comprise a list of products available to purchase using a rebate credit, wherein the list is determined based on the purchase information.





34. (Original) The method of Claim 31, further comprising:

displaying a plurality of products available to purchase using a credit associated with a selected one of the disbursement options;

receiving purchase selections from the plurality of products; and displaying a total price of the purchase selections.

35. (Original) The method of Claim 34, further comprising receiving credit card information from the user if the total price exceeds the credit.



- 36. (Original) The method of Claim 31, further comprising linking to a site for purchasing products using a credit associated with a selected one of the disbursement options.
- 37. (Original) The method of Claim 31, wherein the disbursement options comprise a cash rebate and a credit voucher.
- 38. (Original) The method of Claim 31, wherein the credit voucher comprises a selected one of a retailer gift certificate, a manufacturer credit voucher, and a credit valid for an Internet purchase.